consult the Public Service Commission. May I know, Sir, whether these regulations have been published under the provisions of this Article of the Constitution? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Yes, Sir. It has been published under the provisions of this Article in the Constitution."

Appointment of District Judges from the Bar.

* 33 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHMA MUDALIAR : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government propose to appoint District Judges by direct recruitment from the Bar and if so, whether they have called for applications from members who have not completed 45 years of age;

(*b*) whether the Government have any proposal to relax the age-rule in the case of applicants belonging to Scheduled and Backward Communities; and

(*c*) whether the post falls within the purview of the Public Service Commission for selection of candidates?

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative. There is only one vacancy now to be filled by direct recruitment. Applications were called for on 9th November 1951 and 24th March 1952. The applications have been forwarded to the High Court and its recommendations are awaited.

" (*b*) The age-limit does not apply to members of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes and so no relaxation of rule is necessary.

" (*c*) No, Sir. Article 233 of the Constitution explains why the reference is to the High Court and not to the Public Service Commission."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAMA MUDALIAR :—" Sir, will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to enlighten why an age-limit for candidates has been prescribed in the notification inviting applications to the post when Article 233 (2) of the Constitution does not lay down any such age-limit for direct recruitment to the higher judiciary? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, the age-limit has been prescribed in the interests of the public service. It is not usual to directly recruit old people. The qualification was originally ten years standing as an Advocate but now it is only seven years standing. We have taken the normal period which a lawyer would take to finish seven years standing and, I believe, the age-limit would not appear to be too much."